

Cancer is a complex, multifaceted, and chronic disease, and people with cancer are best served by a multidisciplinary health care team specialized in oncology care, including nurses who are certified in that specialty. Oncology nurses play a central role in the provision of quality cancer care as they are principally involved in the administration and monitoring of chemotherapy and the associated side-effects patients may experience. As anyone ever treated for cancer will tell you, oncology nurses are intelligent, well-trained, highly skilled, kind-hearted angels who provide quality clinical, psychosocial, and supportive care to patients and their families. In short, they are integral to our nation's cancer care delivery system.

The Oncology Nursing Society, ONS, is the largest organization of oncology health professionals in the world with more than 30,000 registered nurses and other health care professionals. Since 1975, the Oncology Nursing Society has been dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, research, administration and education in the field of oncology. The Society's mission is to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. To that end, ONS honors and maintains nursing's historical and essential commitment to advocacy for the public good by providing nurses and healthcare professionals with access to the highest quality educational programs, cancer-care resources, research opportunities, and networks for peer support.

The ONS has a chapter that serves the state of Rhode Island and the southeastern Massachusetts areas. This chapter helps them to continue to provide high quality cancer care to those patients and their families. On behalf of the people of Rhode Island, I want to express my appreciation for all that these amazing nurses do to advance the health and well-being of people with cancer and to further the practice of oncology nursing.

Despite significant breakthroughs in the treatment, early detection, and prevention of cancer, two-thirds of new cancer cases strike people over the age of 65 and the number of new cancer cases diagnosed among the elderly is projected to more than double by 2030 as the Baby Boom generation ages. The impact that cancer has on our nation, especially on the Medicare Program, cannot be underestimated or overlooked. In addition, more than 115,000 nursing positions will go unfilled by the year 2015—a factor which—taken with eroding Medicare payment for outpatient cancer care—further exacerbates the challenge of a growing number of cancer cases.

This week more than 5,000 oncology nurses from around the country have traveled to Washington, DC to attend the Oncology Nursing Society's 27th Annual Congress. This year's theme is aptly titled "The Many Faces of Oncology Nursing." The attendees will increase their knowledge of the newest

cancer treatments, learn the latest developments in cancer nursing research, and enhance their clinical skills and contribute to their professional development. In addition, approximately 550 of these nurses—representing 49 states—will come to Capitol Hill to discuss issues.

I would like to commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its efforts over the last 27 years and to thank the Society and its members for their ongoing commitment to improving and assuring access to quality cancer care for all cancer patients and their families.●

CYGNUS

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Cygnus, Inc. of Ponderay, ID on being recognized as one of Boeing's Top 25 Suppliers for the C-17.

As we all know, the C-17 is one of our key aircraft. Since it was first put into service in 1993, the C-17 has proven its worthiness as an extremely flexible airlift aircraft vital to our national security. Lately, Congress has reaffirmed its commitment to the C-17 by authorizing the purchase of additional aircraft. This is the right thing to do and I applaud my colleagues. In this day and age, we need a rapid-deployment airlift aircraft that can reach remote areas. The C-17 delivers and we must continue to support the program. Not only is it important for our national defense, it is money well spent because of quality subcontractors like Cygnus.

Cygnus has supplied top-notch parts for the C-17 since the first aircraft rolled off the assembly line. Today, Boeing and Cygnus celebrated the delivery of the parts for the 100th C-17 and Boeing will recognize Cygnus as one of the top 25 suppliers for the program.

Cygnus is a real success story of Idaho. It started in 1998 and since then has grown to sixty-five employees, forty-five of which work on its C-17 program. What is truly remarkable is they have taken those 65 employees, who didn't have experience in the aerospace manufacturing field, and turned them into a stellar team supplying our Nation's military. Because they have chosen to locate in Ponderay, ID, they have helped to diversify the local economy from a natural resource dependent economy to one that has a diverse industrial base.

Boeing is not the only one to recognize Cygnus' performance. In 2000, Region 10 of the Small Business Administration recognized Cygnus as the Subcontractor of the Year for their outstanding work on the U.S. Navy's F-18 E/F program.

Since September 11, our country has recognized, more than ever, the sacrifice that our Nation's military gives to protect our freedoms. Today, I also want to recognize the effort that our civilian laborers put into the effort. Much like Rosie the Riveter assisted

our troops in World War II, our civilian manufacturers of today, working with our military, will ensure the freedoms we all enjoy.●

REVEREND DR. BYRON HOWELL BROWN, JR.

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, the congregation of Christ Church and the Village of Garden City experienced a great loss when the Reverend Dr. Byron Howell Brown, Jr. passed away on Saturday, April 13. Father Brown, as he was affectionately known by all those who knew him, was a life-long resident of Garden City and was instituted as Rector of Christ Church in 1967. Throughout his tenure as Rector, Father Brown was the spiritual leader of several generations of parishioners, but it would be impossible to quantify how many lives he touched. Father Brown truly practiced the lessons that he preached. He was a faithful and committed rector, husband, father, grandfather, coach, counselor, mentor, and friend. He will be deeply missed by all those who were fortunate enough to know him, learn from him, and hear his message of God's abiding love. Through his devotion and kindness to his congregation, his family, and all those he served, he set a standard to which we should all aspire.

Father Brown will be laid to rest tomorrow, with a mass of Christian burial at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. But Father Brown's spirit and kindness will live on through his beloved wife Marylou, his children Jeanne, Thomas, Timothy and Janice, his daughters in law Lisa, and Mary Patricia, and especially through his grandchildren Aidan Byron, Sarah Margaret, Frances Anne, and Matthew George.●

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred July 8, 1997 in Rock Island, IL. A gay man was attacked by two youths who used anti-gay epithets. The assailants, Nicholas S. McGonigle, 18, and Donald Thompson, 17, were charged with aggravated battery and a hate crime in connection with the incident.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.●